

## AMEND CHAPTER 36 – Mobile Canteen Units

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SUBJECT: Amendments to various provisions of Chapter 36 of the Code of Ordinances related to “Mobile Canteen Units”

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### STAFF REPORT:

Staff is proposing various amendments to the zoning ordinance related to the issue of mobile canteen units. Mobile canteen units have experienced a marked rise in popularity around the country and in the City of Little Rock. Mobile canteen units are able to dispense a large variety of foods, healthy meal options and foods from diverse cultural backgrounds to all areas of the City, including underserved areas. As the industry expands, it produces jobs for operators; including entrepreneurial opportunities for small and minority-owned business operators. Popular mobile canteen units can attract foot traffic and encourage social interaction.

Staff feels it is necessary to update and clarify the regulations for operating mobile canteen units in the City.

The City currently permits mobile food vendors to setup and operate on properties which are zoned C-3, C-4 and UU. There are regulations concerning the placement and operation of the units.

This proposed ordinance amendment basically accomplishes three purposes:

1. Creates a zoning ordinance definition that clearly identifies “mobile canteen unit”.
2. Specifically places that use in various zoning districts and broadens the number of nonresidential zoning districts which would allow the use,
3. Codifies, by reference in each zoning district, the City-administered regulations concerning the placement and operation of the mobile canteen units.

The Commission is asked to consider and recommend for approval the proposed ordinance amendment language. A copy of the City-administered regulations is attached for informational proposes. Since those regulations are not specifically outlined in the Code, but are enforceable by reference, they can be changed as circumstances warrant.

## AMEND CHAPTER 36 – Mobile Canteen Units (Cont.)

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Copies of the proposed ordinance amendment and the regulations were distributed to the ordinance amendment contact list of persons, groups and agencies. Any comments received will be shared with the Commission.

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### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed ordinance amendments.

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### PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:

(MAY 1, 2014)

Staff presented the item. There was no one present to speak on the item. Staff had received two (2) e-mail responses, both supportive. There was no further discussion. The item was placed on the consent agenda and recommended for approval by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes and 1 absent.